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about...looking at that upper age limit, and if a child will now need to reach six prior to January 1 of the current school year or if the child is ... and that is if the child is enrolled in public school. Again, whatever date we set is certainly no guarantee on if or when that child is ready to enter school. know that I have received numerous letters and e-mails about we know how things have changed in our schools. The expectations in kindergarten now far exceed those of even five years ago. A four-year-old is now going to be expected to read by the end of his kindergarten year, or their kindergarten year. And I have also another letter from a teacher who said that time is a wonderful gift. Why not give that gift to our children? There are so many pressures on children to grow up to succeed, compete, perform, and do it all well. And sometimes children just are not developmentally ready to do it all. And that's what we're trying to do with this amendment that we have before us. And we know that children learn and are developmentally ready . . .

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR STUHR: ...different, and school should be no different. We need to take into account that all children mature, grow, and develop on their own individual time. Giving children a little more time could make a world of difference. And I believe that we would see less students requiring remedial or special education services. Education funds are spread very thin right now. Many times school administrators who don't work with students on a daily basis encourage parents to send their children to school no matter what their age. But I think we need to be idealistic and not realistic educators. We all need students who are ready to learn and to meet the challenges that school demands. And that is why this...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time.

SENATOR STUHR: ...the original bill was presented to me. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Stuhr. Senator Chambers, on AM2960 to the committee amendments.